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NFAC 3586-79

9 July 1979

Memorandum for Dr. Bowie

Subject: Senior Review Panel Suggestion for an Addition
of an Estimate to the List of Projects to be
Considered at the NFAC Production Board Meeting
on 10 July

1. The list of projected estimates is impressive
but, it seems to us, contains a major gap.

2. Is there not a need for a forward-looking estimate
of likely trends in the international economic (and financial)
positions of the United States, other key OECD countries, the
Soviet Union, and the OPEC countries? Clearly, the international
distribution of economic assets and liabilities - which has
been changing dramatically and is likely to change further -
will seriously affect the relative capacity of countries,
and groups of countries, to wield foreign political (and
even military) influence and to resist pressures exerted by
others. It would seem that such a paper could be very helpful
to policymakers, that the intelligence community has a variety
of assets on which such an estimate could draw, and that there
would be much value in having a coordinated community view
on this important subject.

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William Leonhart

1 - blind copy to Bruce Clarke

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